Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an exposing device for exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

a thermal developing device for developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material so as to form an image;

a measuring device for measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

a calibrating device for forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on ~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

a counting device for counting ~~the~~ a number of the image forming ~~material~~ materials developed within a predetermined time; and

a controlling device for controlling the exposing device, the thermal developing device, the measuring device, the calibrating device and the counting device;

wherein the controlling device ~~stop forming~~ prevents formation of the table for a predetermined time when ~~the counting~~

~~device counts~~ the number of the developed image forming ~~material~~ materials counted by the counted device is more than a predetermined number.

2. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, said exposing device exposes ~~to~~ a part of the image forming material with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed~~,

wherein the ~~image processing apparatus further comprises: a~~ controlling device ~~for controlling~~ controls at least one of the exposing device and the thermal developing device ~~in such a way~~ so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the thermal developing device includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum that is heated by a heater so as to form the image.

4. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 3, wherein a surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.

5. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an exposing device for exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

a thermal developing device for developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material, wherein the developing device includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum which is heated by a heater so as to form an image;

a measuring device for measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

a calibrating device for forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on ~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

a thermal sensing device for sensing a temperature of a surface on the heating ~~dram~~ drum; and

a controlling device for controlling the exposing device, the thermal developing device, the measuring device, the calibrating device and the thermal sensing device;

wherein the controlling device ~~stop forming~~ prevents formation of the table when the temperature sensed by the thermal sensing device ~~senses the temperature out~~ is outside of a predetermined temperature range ~~of temperature~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, said exposing device exposes ~~to~~ a part of the image forming material with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed~~,

wherein the ~~image processing apparatus further comprises: a~~ controlling device ~~for controlling~~ controls at least one of the exposing device and the thermal developing device ~~in such a way~~ so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the thermal sensing device is provided on an

inner ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

8. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the thermal sensing device is provided on an outer ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

9. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of claim 5, wherein ~~a~~ the surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An image processing method ~~of an image processing,~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~exposing for~~ exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

~~thermal developing for~~ developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material with a thermal developing device so as to form an image ~~by a developing device;~~

~~measuring for~~ measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

~~calibrating for~~ forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on

~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

~~counting for~~ counting ~~the~~ a number of the image forming ~~material~~ materials developed within a predetermined time; and

~~controlling to form~~ preventing formation of the table ~~so as to stop~~ for a predetermined time when ~~the counting step counts~~ the counted number of the developed image forming ~~material~~ materials is more than a predetermined number.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, ~~said exposing step exposes to~~ a part of the image forming material is exposed with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed;~~

wherein ~~the method further comprises the step of controlling for controlling~~ at least one of the exposing and the thermal developing ~~in such a way~~ device is controlled so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the thermal developing device includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum that is heated by a heater so as to form the image.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein a surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An image processing method ~~of an image processing,~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~exposing for~~ exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

~~thermal developing for~~ developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material ~~by~~ with a thermal developing device ~~, wherein the thermal developing device~~ that includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum which is heated by a heater so as to form an image;

~~measuring for~~ measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

~~calibrating for~~ forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on

~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

~~thermal sensing for~~ sensing a temperature of a surface on the heating ~~dram by~~ drum with a thermal sensing device;

~~controlling to form the table so as to stop~~ preventing formation of the table when the ~~thermal sensing step senses the~~ temperature ~~out~~ sensed by the temperature sensing device is outside of a predetermined temperature range ~~of temperature~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, ~~said exposing step exposes to~~ a part of the image forming material is exposed with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed;~~

wherein ~~the method further comprises the step of: a controlling for controlling~~ at least one of the exposing and the thermal developing ~~in such a way~~ device is controlled so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the thermal sensing device is provided on an inner ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the thermal sensing device is provided on an outer ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~a~~ the surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having a computer program ~~to control~~ stored thereon that is executable by a computer to cause the computer to function as an image processor ~~, wherein the image processor comprises~~ that performs functions comprising:

an exposing function for exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

a thermal developing function for developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material with a

thermal developing device so as to form an image ~~by a developing device~~;

a measuring function for measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

a calibrating function for forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on ~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

a counting function for counting ~~the~~ a number of the image forming ~~material~~ materials developed within a predetermined time; and

a controlling function ~~to form~~ preventing formation of the table ~~so as to stop~~ for a predetermined time when ~~the counting function counts~~ the counted number of the developed image forming ~~material~~ materials is more than a predetermined number.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, said exposing function exposes ~~to~~ a part of the image forming material with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed~~,

wherein the ~~computer program further comprises: a~~ controlling function ~~for controlling~~ controls at least one of the exposing and the thermal developing ~~in such a way~~ device so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein the thermal developing device includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum that is heated by a heater so as to form the image.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein a surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having a computer program ~~to control~~ stored thereon that is executable by a computer to cause the computer to function as an

image processor ~~, wherein the image processor comprises~~ that performs functions comprising:

an exposing function for exposing an image forming material so as to form a latent image on the image forming material based on image data;

a thermal developing function for developing and visualizing the latent image on the exposed image forming material ~~by~~ with a thermal developing device ~~, wherein the thermal developing device~~ that includes a heating ~~dram~~ drum which is heated by a heater so as to form an image;

a measuring function for measuring ~~the~~ an image density of the image on the developed image forming material;

a calibrating function for forming a table to define a ~~relation~~ relationship between an image signal and image density based on ~~the basis of plural~~ a plurality of different test image data and corresponding measured-image densities ~~thereof~~;

a thermal sensing function for sensing a temperature of a surface on the heating ~~dram by~~ drum with a thermal sensing device; and

a controlling function ~~to form the table so as to stop~~ preventing formation of the table when the ~~thermal sensing step senses~~ the temperature ~~out~~ sensed by the temperature sensing device is outside of a predetermined temperature range ~~of temperature~~.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein, when forming a diagnosis image, said exposing function exposes ~~to~~ a part of the image forming material with a light quantity ~~through the table~~ corresponding to a predetermined density ~~at the time of forming a diagnosis image and measuring~~ based on the table;

wherein a density ~~on the~~ is measured at said part of the image forming material; and ~~on which the diagnosis image is formed~~,

wherein the ~~computer program further comprises: a~~ controlling function ~~for controlling~~ controls at least one of the exposing and the thermal developing ~~in such a way~~ device so as to optimize the density of the diagnosis image ~~according to~~ in accordance with the ~~result~~ measured density of ~~the~~ said part of the image forming material ~~obtained by measuring~~.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein the thermal sensing device is provided on an inner ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein the thermal sensing

device is provided on an outer ~~circumference~~ circumferential surface of the heating ~~dram~~ drum.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein ~~a~~ the surface of the heating ~~dram has a~~ drum includes an area that is not heated from a back of the area.